

The Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP) is a voluntary program that helps farmers and ranchers keep their land in agriculture. It provides matching funds to State, Tribal, or local governments and non-governmental organizations with existing farmland protection programs to purchase conservation easements or other interests in land.

FY 2004 FRPP Activities

Entity	County	Type	Acres	Federal Share
Colorado Open Lands	Park	Ranch	398	\$400,000
Colorado Open Lands	Pueblo	Ranch	190	\$69,422
Total			588	\$469,422

The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) is a voluntary program that encourages creation of high quality wildlife habitats that support wildlife populations of National, State, Tribal, and local significance. Through WHIP, NRCS provides technical and financial assistance to landowners and others to develop upland, wetland, riparian, and aquatic habitat areas on their property.

FY 2004 WHIP Activities

Number of Applications Received	34
Number of Applications Contracted	6
Dollar Amount Approved	\$148,619
Acres Under Contract	21,654



The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) was reauthorized in the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Farm Bill) to provide a voluntary conservation program for farmers and ranchers that promotes agricultural production and environmental quality. EQIP provides financial and technical help to assist eligible participants install or implement structural and management conservation practices on eligible agricultural land. EQIP may cost share up to 75 percent of the costs of certain conservation practices.

FY 2004 EQIP Contract Funding in the Upper Arkansas River Watershed

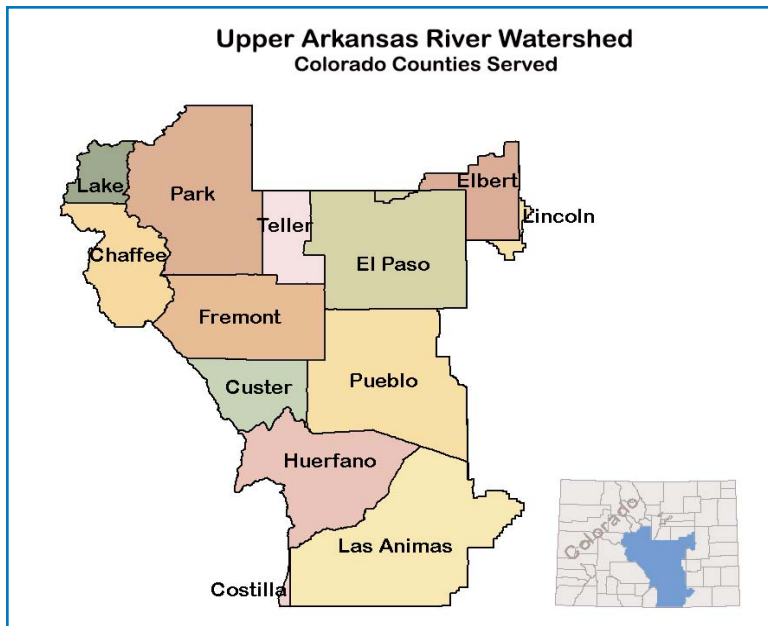
Natural Resource Concerns	Applications Received	Applications Contracted	\$ Amount Approved
Water Quality	91	47	\$757,988
Soil Erosion	19	9	\$20,572
Grassland	82	30	\$634,693
Forestland	5	1	\$37,500
Wildlife	15	2	\$97,875
Total	212	89	\$1,548,628



Upper Arkansas River Watershed

What is a Watershed? A watershed is the land that water flows across or under on its way to a stream, river, or lake. Everyone lives in a watershed. You and everyone in your watershed are part of the watershed community.

Colorado's Watershed Approach: Instead of the traditional statewide approach in addressing priority resource issues like soil erosion, water quality, grazing lands, wildlife, and animal waste, NRCS looks to Colorado's ten watershed work groups to identify local resource needs and priorities. These work groups meet annually to determine which natural resource concerns are most prevalent in their communities. In turn, NRCS focuses its resources on addressing those concerns. Colorado's local conservation districts provide leadership in this effort to foster increased decision making at the local level.



10,025,500 Acres

Land Use	Acres
Irrigated Cropland	150,000
Non-Irrigated Cropland	100,000
Rangeland	4,914,207
Irrigated Hay & Pasture	60,000
Non-Irrigated Hay & Pasture	90,000
Forest Land	1,349,933
Urban	200,000
Conservation Reserve Program	50,837
Federal Lands	2,910,623



Resources at Work in the Upper Arkansas River Watershed



The Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) is a voluntary program that helps landowners restore and protect grasslands, including rangeland and pastureland, while maintaining the areas as grazing lands. It emphasizes support for grazing operations, plant and animal biodiversity, and grassland under the greatest threat of conversion.

FY 2004 GRP Statewide Activity

Applications Received353
Applications Contracted7
Dollars Approved \$2,250,000
Acres Under Contract9,066